



BROOKFIELD

Worcester County



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NARRATIVE

Narrative

Brookfield, originally founded in 1660 as part of the Quabog Plantation, is a small community of about 3000 people situated midway between Worcester and Springfield on Route 9. The town is bordered on the south by Sturbridge, with easy access to the Massachusetts Turnpike. Governed by an open town meeting and Board of Selectmen, there are many opportunities for citizens to participate in local government.

Brookfield has maintained its quiet atmosphere while evolving from an agricultural to a bedroom community for the larger cities to the east and west, and provides easy access to the educational and cultural opportunities of these urban areas. With its lakes and river and vast tracts of open land, the town has much to offer the sportsman, nature lover and those who enjoy a rural way of life.

Brookfield maintains its K-6 elementary schools and belongs to the Tantasqua Regional School District, which offers a junior high school, a high school and a vocational school. Despite the fiscal constraints common to all Massachusetts towns, Brookfield continues to place a priority on education, as demonstrated by its funding support for school committee requests and approval of a debt exclusion for a major addition to the elementary school.

Every Columbus Day weekend, visitors from all over New England come to take in the flavor of a small rural town on an autumn day by attending the annual crafts fair on the common, called the Apple Country Fair.

(Narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Central Massachusetts, bordered by North Brookfield on the north; East Brookfield on the east; Sturbridge on the south; and Brimfield, Warren, and West Brookfield on the west. Brookfield is 22 miles west of Worcester, 33 miles east of Springfield, 57 miles west of Boston, and 158 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 16.57 sq. miles

Land Area: 15.52 sq. miles

Population: 2,968

Density: 191 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(East Brimfield Lake Station)

Normal temperature in January.....21.5°F

Normal temperature in July.....70.3°F

Normal annual precipitation.....45.0"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

East Brookfield, Warren

Regional Planning Agency

Central Massachusetts

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Worcester



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (508) 867-2930

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Administrative Assistant

Open Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1673

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	1,621		
Democrats	345	21.3	%
Republicans	206	12.7	%
Other parties	0	0.0	%
Unenrolled Voters	1,070	66.0	%

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Brookfield town, Worcester County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	3,051	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	3,051	100.0
Male.....	1,499	49.1	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	18	0.6
Female.....	1,552	50.9	Mexican.....	1	-
Under 5 years.....	178	5.8	Puerto Rican.....	12	0.4
5 to 9 years.....	211	6.9	Cuban.....	-	-
10 to 14 years.....	241	7.9	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	5	0.2
15 to 19 years.....	227	7.4	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	3,033	99.4
20 to 24 years.....	110	3.6	White alone.....	2,978	97.6
25 to 34 years.....	399	11.1	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	551	18.1	Total population.....	3,051	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	465	15.2	In households.....	3,051	100.0
55 to 59 years.....	171	5.6	Householder.....	1,204	39.5
60 to 64 years.....	146	4.8	Spouse.....	694	22.7
65 to 74 years.....	197	6.5	Child.....	911	29.9
75 to 84 years.....	185	6.1	Own child under 18 years.....	729	23.9
85 years and over.....	30	1.0	Other relatives.....	88	2.9
Median age (years).....	38.9	(X)	Under 18 years.....	36	1.2
18 years and over.....	2,260	74.1	Nonrelatives.....	154	5.0
Male.....	1,094	35.9	Unmarried partner.....	68	2.2
Female.....	1,166	38.2	In group quarters.....	-	-
21 years and over.....	2,166	71.0	Institutionalized population.....	-	-
62 years and over.....	499	16.4	Noninstitutionalized population.....	-	-
65 years and over.....	412	13.5	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	177	5.8	Total households.....	1,204	100.0
Female.....	235	7.7	Family households (families).....	857	71.2
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	390	32.4
One race.....	3,025	99.1	Married-couple family.....	694	57.6
White.....	2,993	98.1	With own children under 18 years.....	291	24.2
Black or African American.....	6	0.2	Female householder, no husband present.....	109	9.1
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	16	0.5	With own children under 18 years.....	66	5.5
Asian.....	9	0.3	Nonfamily households.....	347	28.8
Asian Indian.....	-	-	Householder living alone.....	287	23.8
Chinese.....	2	0.1	Householder 65 years and over.....	106	8.8
Filipino.....	3	0.1	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	417	34.6
Japanese.....	-	-	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	299	24.8
Korean.....	3	0.1	Average household size.....	2.53	(X)
Vietnamese.....	-	-	Average family size.....	2.98	(X)
Other Asian ¹	1	-	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	-	-	Total housing units.....	1,302	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	-	-	Occupied housing units.....	1,204	92.5
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	-	-	Vacant housing units.....	98	7.5
Samoa.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	-	-	occasional use.....	43	3.3
Some other race.....	1	-	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	1.4	(X)
Two or more races.....	26	0.9	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	6.1	(X)
<i>Race alone or in combination with one</i>			HOUSING TENURE		
<i>or more other races: ³</i>			Occupied housing units.....	1,204	100.0
White.....	3,019	99.0	Owner-occupied housing units.....	972	80.7
Black or African American.....	10	0.3	Renter-occupied housing units.....	232	19.3
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	25	0.8	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.62	(X)
Asian.....	21	0.7	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	2.18	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	-	-			
Some other race.....	2	0.1			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State: 2

Conventional Federal: 0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP: 0

Federal (Section 8): 0



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Located in the Worcester region, which has three major cross-state highways: the Worcester Turnpike (Route 9), Route 20, and the Massachusetts Turnpike. I-495 borders to the east, I-190 links to the Fitchburg-Leominster area, I-84 and I-395 connect to Connecticut and points south. The region is well connected by rail and highway to the ports, airports, and intermodal facilities of Boston and Providence.

Major Highways

The principal highway is State Route 9. Cross-state roads U.S. Route 20 and Interstate Route 90, the Massachusetts Turnpike, are easily accessible.

Rail

Conrail provides freight rail service through Brookfield. Contact number: (617) 783-6222

Bus

Brookfield is a member of the Worcester Regional Transit Authority (WRTA), which provides fixed route service between Brookfield Center, Leicester, and Worcester.

Other

The Worcester Municipal Airport, a Primary Commercial (PR) facility with scheduled passenger service, is easily accessible. It has 2 asphalt runways 5,500' and 6,999' long. Instrument approaches available: Precision and non-precision.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

None

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

None

Long Term Care

None

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.